IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Fernando Incertis Carro

Examiner:

Serial No.:

Art Unit:

Filed:

For: **METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR LINKING CERTIFICATES TO SIGNED FILES**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Preliminary Amendment

Sir:

Prior to initial examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

In the Abstract:

Please replace the abstract with the following abstract:

A method for processing a file having an existing filename. A private key associated with a digital certificate and a certificate address from which the digital certificate may be accessed are received from a certification authority (CA) who issued the digital certificate. A digital signature is generated based on the file and the received private key. The digital certificate includes a public key associated with the private key such that the generated digital signature can be verified through use of the public key. The file is signed with the generated digital signature The received certificate address is encoded to generate an encoded address. The existing filename and the encoded address are merged to generate a new filename. The file is renamed with the new filename. The renamed file may be authenticated by verifying the digital signature via execution of an authentication algorithm in conjunction with the public key.